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equally forbidden doors of the homes of great princes. An unexampled opportunity, but the result is somewhat disappointing. It is as though the doors set wide disclosed an inner screen; we do not seem to glimpse, far less gaze into, the life which lies behind the gate and on the other side of the screen.

The first third of the volume is taken up with the account of the Dowager Empress. These chapters are essays in interpretation of the character of a woman who made herself great in a community where women are small. There is dearth of facts which might serve as data. There is a marked lack of the power to penetrate into the heart of a society whose ethics, minor as well as major, differs in externals so widely from our own. Prof. Headland's essays are illuminative. They present a picture of the empress with a wealth of detail such as is exhibited in no other record. The same is to be said of the three chapters on the emperor Kuang Hsü. Yet we must recognize that the illumination is but a brighter glow of light upon the superficies; the two great figures may photograph better, the result is after all but a photograph and not a portrait. The baffled investigator of such an alien culture may make his peace with his conscience by reciting the chant of east and west that never shall the twain meet, a confession of failure. Prof. Headland shows himself an admirer of the empress, but that her character has baffled his understanding is manifest in his inability to account for her stand in the Boxer troubles, that conservative reaction of old China against the new life felt upon the fringes of the empire.

In the present epoch of the Middle Kingdom, an infant making the sacrifices to the ancestors, and a regent reigning in his name, this book will certainly remain for some time the source whence will be derived much of our Western acquaintance with names at present great. How long they will remain great it is impossible to foretell. The gates of the home of the Manchu princes have closed, the doors of the Forbidden City have snapped shut, and always behind them remains that screen which decorates so much, hides so much. Yet before the closing of the doors, Prof. Headland has drawn a helpful sketch of Prince Chun, the regent, upon whom so much will depend. With ripper appreciation, probably by reason of the greater opportunity for free acquaintance, he has sketched the career of Yüan Shih-kai. He indulges himself in the hope that his career is not ended by his retirement to a far province to nurse a rheumatism in the leg. Before that sentence was pronounced upon him he was suspected of the murder of Kuang Hsü. Before that again he was a leader of a liberal China.

WILLIAM CHURCHILL.

Rocky Mountain Wild Flower Studies. An account of the Ways of some Plants that Live in the Rocky Mountain Region. By Burton O. Longyear. xv and 156 pp., Illustrations from Nature, by the Author, and Index. Author's Edition, Fort Collins, Col., 1909. [The author, professor of botany in the State Agricultural College of Colorado, tells the story here of a considerable number of the Rocky Mountain plants. He is an enthusiastic naturalist, his talks are written *con amore* and make pleasant and edifying reading. They will help teachers to teach, and pupils and general readers to learn the ways of plants.]

The Lure of the Indian Country and a Romance of its Great Resort. By Oleta Littleheart. 145 pp. and many Photo-engravings. A. Abbott, Sulphur,

Oklahoma. Leather, \$1.; paper, 25c. [No harm at all, but it was not necessary to weave even a true love story into this interesting narrative of the passing of the old régime in the Indian Territory and its absorption as a part of the lusty state of Oklahoma. The author gives the history of that momentous period of the transformation, of the rise of the astonishing little city of Sulphur, of the resources that bless the land, and reveals much of the inner life and ambitions of the Five Tribes. She is a daughter of this Indian country, knows what she describes and tells her story vivaciously.]

Times of Sunrise and Sunset, in the United States. By Robert Wheeler Willson, Professor of Astronomy in Harvard University. Harvard Coöperative Society, Cambridge, 1908. \$1.25. [A series of 48 maps plates, four for each month, each containing two maps, the upper to be used for finding the standard time of sunrise for the date at the head of the page, the time of sunset being found from the lower map. Simple rules are given for using the maps. Away from large towns, this work should often serve a useful purpose.]

Visitors' Guide to Westminster Abbey. By Francis Bond. 93 pp., 12 plans, 36 photographs and other Illustrations. Henry Frowde, Oxford University Press, London & New York, 1909. 1s. [A little book for the pocket dealing chiefly with the monuments and other objects of interest in the church and cloisters. Especially adapted for visitors who have only limited time.]

Wie sollen unsere Mittelschüler die Alpen bereisen? Technische Anleitungen und wissenschaftliche Anregungen von Ernst Enzensperger. 123 pp., Illustrations and Bibliography. Jos. Kösel'sche Buchhandlung, Kempten u. München, 1909. M. 1.50. [Especially intended for students of the secondary schools who wish to pursue geological or other earth or meteorological studies in the Alps, or to observe the influence of Alpine conditions upon the human inhabitants. A good example of an elementary scientific guide for field observations.]

Drumkey's Year Book for East Africa. 1909. Being a complete Calendar, Directory and Gazetteer for the British East Africa and Zanzibar Protectorates, and containing Information about Uganda and German East Africa. By Y. S. A. Drumkey. vi and 394 pp., and 2 Maps. Nairobi General Agency, Nairobi, British East Africa, 1909. [A compendium of information on the regions treated and indispensable to business men, tourists and sportsmen in tropical East Africa.]

Das alte Rom. Sein Werden, Blühen und Vergehen. Von Dr. Ernst Diehl. 126 pp, Illustrations, Maps and Index. Quelle & Meyer, Leipzig, 1909. M. 1.25. [The author, a professor in Jena University. gives here a concise and clearly written description of the situation, surface features and climate of Rome, the development of the ancient city and the characteristic buildings of the royal, republican and imperial epochs, illustrated by a series of photographic views or drawings and maps.]

Norway, Sweden and Denmark with Excursions to Iceland and Spitzbergen. Handbook for Travellers by Karl Baedeker. Ninth Edition, Revised and Augmented. lx and 468 pp., 43 Maps, 26 Plans and several Panoramas. Karl Baedeker, Leipzig, and Charles Scribner's Sons, New York, 1909. M. 8. [A Summary of the Norwegian and Swedish grammars with vocabularies and lists of phrases is appended. This English edition is of great convenience to

American tourists. Heights are given in feet in the text, and in meters on the maps.]

A Paper on the Ordnance Survey. By Col. Sir Duncan Alexander Johnston, late Director-General of the Ordnance Survey. With discussion. Reprint from *Trans. of The Surveyors' Institution*, Vol. 41, Part 5, pp. 155-198, London, 1909. [Gives a brief, historical sketch of the Ordnance Survey and then treats especially of the cadastral or large scale maps which form the basis of the topographical maps. It gives a full insight into the care used in preparing, and ensuring the accuracy of the Ordnance maps.]

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AMERICA. Emigrazione e Colonie. Raccolta di Rapporti dei Agenti Diplomatici e Consolari. Min. degli Affari Esteri, Com. dell' Emigraz., Vol. 3, 470 pp., Rome, 1909.

NORTH AMERICA

United States

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GANNETT, S. S., AND D. H. BALDWIN. Results of Spirit Levelling in Illinois 1896 to 1908. [All results of spirit levelling in Illinois are included.] *Bull.* 421, U. S. Geol. Surv., 74 pp. and Index, Washington, 1910.

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GRIMSLEY, G. P. Iron Ores, Salt and Sandstones. West Va. Geol. Surv., Vol. 4, 603 pp., Maps, Ills. and Index, 1909.

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HAZARD, D. L. Results of Observations made at the Coast and Geodetic Survey Magnetic Observatory at Sitka, Alaska, 1905-1906. Coast and Geodetic Surv., 115 pp. and Diagrams, Washington, 1910.

HENNEN, R. V. Marshall, Wetzel and Tyler Cos., W. Va. [History, Physiography, Geology, Mineral Resources, Soil Survey and Levels above Mean Tide.] *County Reports*, West Va. Geol. Surv., 654 pp., Ills., Index and Maps in Atlas, 1909.